

## THE NEWS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS  
FOR FIRE FIGHTINGIn Greensboro the Volunteer Fire-  
men Are Remembered.

## ATTENDANCE PERCENTAGE

Only Those Who Have Been Present at  
Fifty Per Cent. of the Fires of the  
Year Get a Christmas Present.Only Those Who Have Been Present at  
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Year Get a Christmas Present.Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
GREENSBORO, N. C., December 24.—  
All members of the volunteer fire com-  
panies here who have attended fifty per  
cent of the fires this year were given a  
Christmas present at an extra session of  
the City Council last night, ranging from  
\$1.00 to \$2.00, according to their percentage  
of attendance.A fireman on the freight train from Rich-  
mond last night had his left elbow  
crushed between the bumpers of two  
box cars.The Greensboro Ice and Coal Company  
received last night direct from the mines  
in Pennsylvania the first carload of coal  
for the winter season.It will be sold at \$12 per ton, people  
here have been independent of coal for  
fuel, as the best season oak wood can  
be bought in carload lots, delivered, at  
\$2.50 per cord. Cities near by, that have  
to pay \$4.00 to \$6.00 per cord for wood,  
will read this with envy.A Guilford county convict, Waddill  
Greer, who escaped two years ago, after the  
police had been hunting for him for a  
long time, was seen here in the city and  
a group went after him to-day. He served  
but two months of a three years' sen-  
tence.Last Friday morning, after the bold  
robbery of the clothing store of Cushman  
& Jones, the night before, Chief of Police  
Scott said the thieves were negroes and  
came here from Virginia. This morning  
this prognosis was confirmed by a tele-  
gram from Richmond, saying that a new  
outfit, with the Greensboro firm's  
name on it, had just been pawned there  
by a negro. Every effort will be made to  
identify or locate the holder of the pawn  
ticket.The train going to Raleigh and Green-  
sboro had on six extra passenger and two  
baggage coaches this morning to accom-  
modate the Normal students going home  
in that direction for the Christmas hol-  
idays, which will last until January 5th.  
About one hundred left on the midnight  
train in that direction last night.Dr. Joe E. Grimsby, a leading physician  
of Snow Hill, Greene county, will locate  
here with his family next January.Judge Fred Strudwick, formerly of  
Hillsboro, N. C., but who fourteen years  
ago moved to Seattle, Washington, where  
he acquired fame, fortune and a family,  
has located a law office here and is to-day  
looking for residence property. His fam-  
ily of five will come here for permanent  
residence next month.Hon. Spencer Blackburn, Congressman  
from the Fifth North Carolina Con-  
gressional District, who was recently  
married to a Washington belle and his  
wife, will permanently locate in Green-  
sboro in March, after the expiration of  
his present term in Congress.A prominent and prominent people  
went to Oak Ridge to-day to attend the  
marriage of Mr. A. B. Kimball, a leading  
lawyer here, to Miss Cora Dannel.

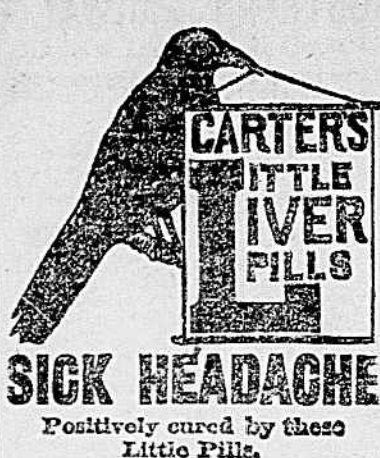
## TO THEIR EMPLOYEES

The Duke Company at Durham Doubles  
Their Pay at Christmas.(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
DURHAM, N. C., Dec. 24.—In closing  
down yesterday for the Christmas hol-  
idays the Duke branch of the American  
Tobacco Company duplicated the amount  
due each employee, making them in the  
aggregate a gift of some six thousand  
or more dollars. The superintendents  
were presented with handsome presents  
by the employees.Conductor Light of the Seaboard Air  
Line was struck by a Southern passenger  
train last night and painfully in-  
jured. He is now at a hospital.J. P. Wingo and Miss J. S. Claiborne,  
both of Nottingham county, Virginia, were  
married in Durham last night and will  
to-morrow the bride will entertain the  
poor children of the town with a Christ-  
mas tree and useful gifts, and in addi-  
tion will let them have the pleasure of  
seeing a maudlin performance by the  
Harrison-Parkinson Stock Company, who  
have an engagement here for the week.

## WAS AT PEKIN

Death of a Young Veteran Who Served  
Bravely in the China Campaign.(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
RICHMOND, N. C., Dec. 24.—O. P. Hicks, a son of Dr. Oliver Hicks,  
of Caroleen, N. C., died of heart dis-  
ease at Atlanta yesterday and will be  
brought here for burial to-day. He was  
born in Raleigh here and was about 28  
years old at the time of his death.He entered the artillery service of the  
United States Army in 1888, and was as-  
signed to Captain Riley's Battery.Young Hicks saw service in Cuba,  
the Philippines and China, and was  
the hero of the walls of Pekin, where  
Captain Hicks was killed, and was one  
of the first to enter the city after itCHRISTMAS GREETINGS  
AND  
NEW YEAR WISHES

## JULIUS SYCLE &amp; SONS

Extend their most cordial grati-  
tude to their patrons for past favors,  
and by their solicitude in the future  
the firm earnestly hopes to merit a  
continuance of the same generous  
patronage.ENGLISH RESIDENT  
DRAGGED TO DEATH(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
CHESAPEAKE, VA., Dec. 24.—  
Mr. John Hoopes, an English resident  
of Albemarle county for about two years,  
was dragged to death last night about  
midnight on the road between the Ri-  
verna Bridge and Pantops.Mr. Hoopes and his friend, Mr. William  
Flowers, were drinking and as the horse  
he was driving turned the corner of the  
bridge he was thrown from his seat. His  
foot became caught in the reins and he  
was dragged to death. It is not known  
which, and he was dragged a consid-  
erable distance.When found Mr. Hoopes' coat and vest  
were torn from his body and his shirt  
was cut into threads.The intense cold had frozen him almost  
stiff, and when found his body had been ex-  
posed for several hours.Passenger Train Strik's Switch Engine  
on C. & O.Passenger train No. 2, from the West,  
collided with a switch engine near the  
company's shops in this city early yes-  
terday morning, doing considerable dam-CARTER'S  
LITTLE  
LIVER  
PILLSSICK HEADACHE  
Positively cured by these  
Little Pills.They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia,  
Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A per-  
fect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drow-  
siness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue  
Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They  
Regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.Small Pill. Small Dose.  
Small Price.was taken. He served continuously his  
term of enlistment, three years, and  
was mustered out in 1901 at San Fran-  
cisco.LARGE INCREASE  
BY BAPTIST BOARDThe Increased Receipts Will  
Admit of Extended  
Work.(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 24.—The Baptist  
State Board of Missions met in an an-  
nual session here to-day and made ap-  
propriations for the next year's work in  
accordance with pledges made at the re-  
cent State Convention at Durham, the  
basis being \$25,000 for all purposes.The Foreign Mission fund was in-  
creased from \$14,000 to \$20,000, and  
the home missions from \$8,000 to \$10,000, mak-  
ing a total advance of \$18,000.Pledges at Durham will enable the  
board to supply some additional foreign  
field not yet decided upon.Last year 46 churches and 23 preach-  
ing stations were given financial aid  
by them. They will be conservative  
increase this year.

## SURVEY COMPLETED

Work Progresses on the Line from  
Asheville to Rutherfordton.(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
RUTHERFORDTON, N. C., Dec. 24.—  
The surveying corps of the Rutherford-  
ton, Hickory Mountain Gap and Asheville  
Railroad have finished their survey from  
Cone Creek to this place and are to-day  
engaged in locating a site for a depot  
in town. To-morrow they will commence  
a survey from Cone Creek to Asheville.The people of Asheville are very much  
interested in this proposed road and are  
greatly encouraged by the report made  
by the engineers thus far. Our people  
are delighted with the prospects for a  
direct wagon road to Asheville.and it is believed that the other roads  
will ask for a union depot when this  
road is a certainty.

## THE MILLER INQUEST

Coroner's Jury Finds that the Steven-  
son Brothers Caused His Death.(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., December  
24.—The coroner's jury rendered a ver-  
dict this afternoon that John Miller, the  
young man who was found in a well yes-  
terday afternoon, came to his death at  
the hands of Rufus and Sandy Steven-  
son.The evidence taken was bad for the  
two brothers. Miller's purse, containing  
\$3 was found in Rufus Stevenson's pocket  
after he committed suicide. After the  
post-mortem examination the county  
physician stated that Miller was alive  
when he struck the water in the well.Several witnesses testified to seeing the  
two brothers and Miller together late  
Sunday evening. Sandy is still in jail. He  
will be held for trial in the Superior Court.VISITING DELEGATES  
CALL ON PRESIDENT(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 24.—  
President Roosevelt this afternoon re-  
ceived the visiting delegates attending the  
biennial convention of the Sigma Alpha  
Epsilon Fraternity, now in session here.  
The introductions were made by Judge  
C. Howard.At the morning session the Committee  
on the Good of the Order reported that  
a building to the memory of the founder  
of the order, Leslie Noble Devotie, would  
be erected at Tusculoo, Ala., on the  
grounds of the University of Alabama,  
where the fraternity was founded in 1858.  
The fraternity will meet in Tusculoo  
in 1905, when the fiftieth anniversary of  
the founding of the order will be fittingly  
celebrated and the building dedicated. The  
report of the committee was a con-  
firmation of the original plan to erect a  
monument to the memory of Mr. Devotie.

## EMIGRATION TO THE WEST.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
MURPHY, N. C., December 24.—A large  
party of emigrants left here a few days  
ago for Oklahoma Territory, where they  
will make their future home. A large  
number of people leave from the resi-  
dence for the West every fall, but they  
generally return. They state that they were  
informed that it is easier to get ten dol-  
lars out there than to get a bushel of  
corn here. There is considerable im-  
migrant activity in this section at present.  
Several immense tracts of timber land  
have been sold and will be developed.ENGLISH RESIDENT  
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posed for several hours.Passenger Train Strik's Switch Engine  
on C. & O.Passenger train No. 2, from the West,  
collided with a switch engine near the  
company's shops in this city early yes-  
terday morning, doing considerable dam-ANNUAL REPORT  
ON RAILROADSThe Corporation Commission's  
Statistics of Great Interest.

## THE REDUCTION IN FARE

The Commission Regards This as the  
Most Important Work of the Year.  
Some Increase in the State  
During the Year.(Special Dispatch to The Times.)  
RALEIGH, N. C., December 24.—The  
North Carolina Corporation Commission,  
in their annual report, issued to-day, give  
much valuable information concerning  
railroads, street railways, banks and other  
corporations in the State. The report  
states that the most important work of  
the year was the reduction of passenger  
fares over the Seaboard Air Line, Atlantic  
Coast Line and Southern Railway, the  
two and three-quarters cents per mile  
second class and three and a quarter cents  
first class being applied to main and  
branch lines alike in the State.Two hundred and fifty-nine complaints  
were brought before the commission dur-  
ing the year, principally about over-  
charges, discriminations, failure to pro-  
vide cars, etc. Most of the causes of  
these complaints, the report states, were  
removed with reasonable promptness upon  
service of notice on the proper authorities.Some notable features of the statistical  
part of the report are that there are  
3,551 90-100 miles of railroad in the State,  
a gain of 80.3 miles over the year, and  
Atlantic Coast Line, the Seaboard Air  
Line and Southern control more than  
three-fourths of the mileage—Atlantic  
Coast Line, 938.77; Seaboard Air Line,  
611.2; Southern, 1,289.26.The tax valuation of railroad property  
is \$12,837,561.57, and the grand total of rail-  
road and other public corporations is  
\$16,206,225. The total earnings of railroads  
are \$16,476,173.56; operating expenses, \$10,-  
187,100.64. There are 11,401 employees of rail-  
roads, who received \$4,432,769 in wages.During the past year accidents resulted  
in seventeen killed and 200 injured on the  
Coast Line; forty-nine killed and 517 in-  
jured on the Southern; eighteen killed  
and 234 injured on the Seaboard Air Line,  
and three killed and forty-seven injured  
on miscellaneous roads. Total, eighty-sev-  
en killed and 1,063 injured.Since 1899 the capital, deposits and re-  
sources of State, private and savings  
banks have increased—capital from \$2,307,-  
57 to \$3,348,504; deposits from \$7,477,53  
to \$14,948,775; resources from \$11,275,490  
to \$20,725,288. In 1899 there were sixty-five  
banks; now there are 120—State, eighty-  
three; private, twenty-three; savings,  
fourteen. Thirty building and loan asso-  
ciations have \$2,000,000 in assets.The Secretary of State to-day chartered  
the W. W. Mills Company, of Raleigh,  
with \$200,000 capital, to do a general lum-  
ber business and construct and operate  
railways in North Carolina. Messrs. J. M.  
Nash and Cumberland counties. W. W.  
Mills, principal incorporator, is president  
of the Carolina Trust and Banking Com-  
pany, of Raleigh. He has \$100,000 of the  
stock.Governor Ashe will, within the next  
few days, call a special election in the  
State Senatorial District composed of  
Madison, Mitchell and Vance counties for  
a successor to State Senator Zeb. Wilcox.  
The late Senator Wilcox was killed by his brother,  
John Wilcox.The State Superintendent of Public In-  
struction announces that the State Board's  
permanent educational fund now amounts  
to \$194,173.18. It consists of \$142,300 in four  
per cent. bonds; \$17,000 in six per cent.  
bonds; \$14,873.18 in cash, and proceeds from  
the sale of State swamp lands.The State Board of Charities closed their  
annual meeting here last night. The prin-  
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a statement of the advancement of pub-  
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